

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Inventor(s) : Michael WHITMAN et al.
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For : SURGICAL CUTTING AND STAPLING DEVICE
Group Art Unit : 3721
Examiner : Gloria Weeks
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Commissioner for Patents
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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being electronically transmitted to the United States Patent and Trademark Office via the Office electronic filing system on **March 19, 2008**

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AMENDMENT

S I R:

Pursuant to the filing of a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) and in response to the Final Office Action dated September 19, 2007, please amend the above-captioned application without prejudice as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims, which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 4 of this paper.